

Message Text

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CEQ-01 EPA-04 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-02 FPC-01

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SUBJ: FY 77 CCP - ENERGY SOURCES TRADE MISSION

REF: BERN 358; BONN 819 AND 2106; DUSSELDORF A-212,
OF 12/12/75

1. ENERGY SYSTEMS THEME IS NOT CONTEMPLATED AS A CAMPAIGN IN THE FY 77 CCP FOR GERMANY. IMMEDIATE SALES OPPORTUNITIES ARE LIMITED, BUT WE WOULD RECOMMEND, IN VIEW OF LONG TERM PROSPECTS OF THE APPLICATION OF SOLAR ENERGY IN GERMANY, THAT GERMANY BE INCLUDED IN THE ITINERARY OF ANY SUCH TRADE MISSION. THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY BEEN QUITE ACTIVE IN FUNDING R&D ON NEW ENERGY SOURCES IN ORDER TO CUT THE DEPENDENCY ON IMPORTED FUELS.

2. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE GERMAN MARKET FOR
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NON-FOSSIL FUEL SOURCES OF ENERGY FOLLOWS:

A. SOLAR ENERGY:

FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PLANS TO PROMOTE SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS WITH DM 110 MILLION DURING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS TO ENCOURAGE ACTIVITIES OF GERMAN INDUSTRY. FIVE GERMAN COMPANIES (ALLGEMEINE ELEKTRICITAETSGESELLSCHAFT, BROWN,BOVERI & CIE., DORNIER, ETS, PHILIPS) ESTABLISHED A WORKING GROUP, THE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT SOLARENERGIE (ASE) AT ESSEN. ASE WILL ENGAGE IN TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST, INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF SOLAR ENERGY AND INTENSIFY INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. RECENTLY ALSO SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS ESTABLISHED IN MUNICH THE DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FUER SONNENENERGIE (DGS), WHICH WILL ENCOURAGE THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE AMONG SCIENTISTS, INDUSTRY AND ARCHITECTS.

B. WIND ENERGY:

SEVERAL GERMAN FIRMS ARE ALREADY WORKING ON WIND ENERGY RESEARCH PROJECTS. FRG MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY IS JUST ABOUT TO CONDUCT A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF WIND DRIVEN GENERATORS OF UP TO ONE MEGAWATT. THE MINISTRY HAS EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THIS FIELD.

C. NUCLEAR ENERGY:

TO DATE ABOUT 30 REACTORS (INCL. RESEARCH REACTORS) ARE EITHER IN OPERATION OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION. CAPACITY IS EXPECTED TO TRIPLE BY 1985. THE GOVERNMENT IS HEAVILY FUNDING RESEARCH AND CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. A RECENTLY CONDUCTED USDOC MARKET SURVEY REVEALED THAT NO AMERICAN FIRM HAS EVER SOLD A NUCLEAR POWER STATION IN THE FRG. GERMAN POWER STATION CONTRACTS GO TO GERMAN MANUFACTURERS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HIGHLY SPECIALIZED CONTROL INSTRUMENTS. PROSPECTS FOR U.S. PRODUCTS IN THE FUTURE ARE ALSO BLEAK.

D. GEOTHERMAL ENERGY:

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INVESTIGATIONS BY PRIVATE FIRMS FOR THE USE OF THE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ARE UNDER WAY. PROSPECTS FOR THE REALIZATION OF COMMERCIALY FEASIBLE POWER STATIONS ARE SLIM.

E. HYDRO ENERGY:

ALL APPROPRIATE RIVERS AND LAKES FOR GENERATING ENERGY ARE ALREADY USED. SEVERAL SMALLER HYDRO

PLANTS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE
RHINE-MAIN-DANUBE-CANAL, WHICH WILL BE COMPLETED IN
THE EARLY 1980'S. POWER PLANTS USING THE TIDAL
CURRENTS ARE NOT PRACTICABLE FOR GEOPHYSICAL REASONS.
CROWLEY

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